Dear Jim, 11/4/75

The meeting with Crewdson yesterday went rather well. He took a copy of Post Mortem with him after we went over parts of it. His intention is to read it all and then get back to me. I have the impression that he has a week for this. If correct I think it is unusual. He is aware of the bulk, the amount of reading.

What I also take to be a good sign is a call from Hedrick Smith, now the national editor. Crewdson was still here. When I said "hello" I asked if he'd like Xrewdson on an extension. Smith's reply was no, he just wanted to be sure that we had finally gotten together. He added a comment that Waldron had been after him steadily.

Krewdson comes from San Francisco. He can recall that as a boy he heard Lane and me on the talk shows out there.

I explained the situation with ancillary rights and my desire that with or without them I'd like the story out for Sundays, the 16th. Also why. He knows that if there is no ancillary sale I'll also want UPI and AP to have a copy.

He'll be skeptical, which is good. I invited him to check anything he has a problem with with me. I also told him that is there is the sale of ancillary rights it is nit possible that all in the book can be used and that I have other documents which are not in the book so that there can still be a good Times story.

He spent the afternoon here.

He had begun by figuring on soending a week at a nearby motel. That was before, as he put it, Danny Schorr "snadbagged" him with the Kurdish rebel story. He had to stay in DC and work on that and barely made the last of all the editions, the one that does not leave New York.

It went pretty much the same way with Heinz Lohfeldt of Der Spiegel, who was here Sunday until he had to leave to meet a plane.

I explained to Lohfeldt that I wanted it out by 11/19 and why and said that I'd be satisfied it was "out" with a press conference dealing in generalities. It would not be abnormal, Spiegel could use a few specifics and the rest egeneralities, and my immediate purposes would be filled.

I got the impression that Waldron had been speaking to Crewdson about me. Not from any one thing Crewdson said but from his attitude and manner. He was more familiar with me and my work and its character than I'd expect a reporter I'd never met before to be. It is not just an impression with Rick Smith, though. He made it explicit in the breif conversation that Waldron had been after him and had him so persuaded that he wanted to be sure nothing else had kept Crewdson away and that we had gotten together. He had another desk man place the call. Norm, I think, would have been to use the tie-line to the DC bureau. So, I'm grateful to Mo and begin with a better feeling that I have had with the Times before.

We'll see.

I was fully informative with him on the contacts I've made, etc.

He may go down to the Belin debate.

Hastily (Gotta lick stamps!)